

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/613,294

Examiner

Carlos Lugo

Applicant(s)

HAUBER, PETER

Art Unit

3676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment after final filed on March 24, 3005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-12 and 19-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 June 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on March 24, 2005.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 5-12 and 19-21 are allowed.**

Reasons For Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter:

Claims 5 and 19 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that the latch plate and the latch are mounted to a common pivot (claim 5) and that the lever plate and the latch plate are coupled such that rotation of the lever plate causes the rotation of the latch plate and the latch (claim 19).

Tucker (US 3,177,687) discloses a sliding door latch assembly. The assembly comprises a vertically extended housing (the space where 11 is located) with a vertically extended major portion; a pull handle (12 or 18) opposite the housing major portion; and a latch (36) mounted within the housing major portion and shiftable to and from the housing for locking a sliding door to a cooperating keeper mounted in a sliding door jamb opposite the latch.

The assembly further includes a rotary actuator (22) located within the housing major portion; and a hand-operated lever (50) rotatably mounted to the housing beyond (on or far from) the housing major portion (Figures 3 and 4).

However, Tucker fails to disclose that the latch plate and the latch are mounted to a common pivot. Tucker discloses that the latch plate (26) is rotatable with

respect to a first pivot (27) and the latch (36) with respect to a second pivot (38) different from the first pivot.

Furthermore, Tucker also fails to disclose that rotation of the lever plate causes the rotation of the latch plate and the latch. Tucker's lever plate (45) does not cause the rotation of the latch plate (26), it cause the rotation of the latch only (Col. 2 Line 70 to Col. 3 Line 1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Lugo whose telephone number 571-272-7058. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.

C.L.

Carlos Lugo

AU 3676

April 6, 2005



DANIEL P. STODOLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600